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INFORMATION REPORT

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CD NO.

25X1A9a

COUNTRY India

SUBJECT Lack of Appearance of Communist Publications

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A6a

DATE OF INF 25X1X6

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DATE DISTR. 24 MAY 1949

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. On 23 April, the weekly organ of the Communist Party successively known as the People's Age, Current Affairs, and People's Herald, failed to appear.*

2. The failure is attributed, by rumor, to two factors. First, most of the publication's writers are presently in jail. Kaul (fmu), editor of People's Age, has recently been released after a two week detention, but, since the police consider him to be a man of lesser intelligence and one of the weakest of the top officials, they do not regard his reappearance as significant. Second, the funds needed have not been forthcoming. The papers were always difficult to obtain, even before they were banned. The several stores in the Fort area which did carry them, ceased to do so when it was rumored that customers were being placed under surveillance. Now, only the People's Publishing House and the International Book Store carry the publications. These stores will not sell more than one or two copies to any one customer; copies are refused to known police agents. Thus, the weekly makes very little money. It is not known whether the Soviet Mission in New Delhi has been giving any aid.

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* [REDACTED] Comment. An article in the Times Of India, dated 28 April 1949, stated that the Government of Bombay has served an order, under the Bombay Public Security Measures Act of 1947, on Mr. J.S. Bhatt, keeper of the New Age Printing Press, Khetwadi Main Road, Bombay, prohibiting him from printing at the press any matter whatsoever until 5 July 1949. The New Age is controlled by the Communist Party.

This document is hereby regraded to
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letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
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Next Review Date: 2008

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DDA Memo, 4 APR 77
Auth: DDA REG. 77/1769
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